

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 19-25 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 17 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of canceled claim 19. Claims 1 and 3-16 are allowed. No new matter has been added.

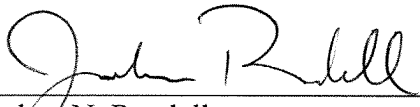
Claims 17, 18 and 20-25 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hopponen (US 6,437,291) in view of Christopher (US 6,037,571). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. However, in an effort to expedite prosecution of the present application, Applicants have amended claim 17 to include the allowable subject matter of claim 19, and canceled claims 20-25. Therefore, this rejection is moot.

In view of the above, Applicants request reconsideration of the application in the form of a Notice of Allowance. If a phone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues related to this matter, please contact Applicants' attorney listed below at 612.371.5387.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Date: August 11, 2006



Joshua N. Randall
Reg. No. 50,719
JNR:ae